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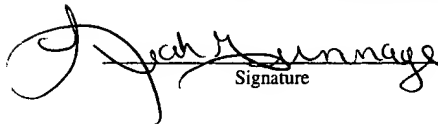
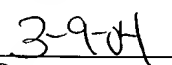
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Patent

Leah Grinnage

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Attorney Docket  
No. 10001-32064

   
Signature Date

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: Gregory Ralph Osborn )  
Serial No.: 09/592,230 )  
Filed: June 12, 2000 )  
Group Art Unit: 2683 )  
Examiner: Stephen M. D'Agosta )

For: Hardware Resource Identifier for Software-Defined Communications System

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Notice of Allowability mailed on March 3, 2004 and the Statement of Reasons for Allowance therein. The Examiner has stated that:

Claims 1, 6 and 11 teach a method of characterizing hardware resource dependencies/hardware topology and/or a hardware resource identifier in a multi-channel communication system wherein:

a. identifying of constraints and interdependencies among hardware resources comprises identifying hardware resource groups and hardware resource group boundaries among the system hardware resources and assigning association labels to the system hardware resources to identify relationships, if any, between the system hardware resources and external hardware, to identify redundant resources within respective ones of the hardware

resource groups, and to characterize dedicated coupling between individual ones of the system hardware resources.

b. a hardware resource group and group boundary identifier for identifying hardware groups and group boundaries of the system hardware resources for use by the processor in interpreting the abstract resource.

Applicant respectfully submits that the foregoing characterization does not accurately reflect the combination of limitations set forth in claims 1, 6 and 8. Applicant understands the foregoing statement to mean that the examiner deems claim 1 allowable because it recites a method of characterizing hardware resource dependencies in a multi-channel communication system wherein identifying of constraints and interdependencies among hardware resources comprises identifying hardware resource groups and hardware resource group boundaries among the system hardware resources and assigning association labels to the system hardware resources to identify relationships, if any, between the system hardware resources and external hardware, to identify redundant resources within respective ones of the hardware resource groups, and to characterize dedicated coupling between individual ones of the system hardware resources, among other limitations.

Applicant also understands the foregoing statement to mean that the examiner deems claim 6 allowable because it recites a hardware resource identifier in a multi-channel communication system wherein a hardware resource group and group boundary identifier for identifying hardware groups and group boundaries of the system hardware resources for use by the processor in interpreting an abstract resource specification.

Applicant further understands the foregoing statement to mean that the examiner deems claim 11 allowable because it recites a method of characterizing a hardware topology of a software-defined communication system comprising identifying hardware resource groups and hardware resource group boundaries among the system hardware resources and assigning

association labels to system hardware resources to identify relationships, if any, between the system hardware resources and external hardware, to identify redundant resources within respective ones of the hardware resource groups, and to characterize dedicated coupling between individual ones of the system hardware resources.

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner contact Applicant's undersigned attorney should the Examiner take exception with any of Applicant's comments herein.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 9, 2004

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